



Mills Beach
Landscape
Masterplan
(Tanti Creek western
carpark to Mornington
Life Saving Club)

September 2012



f i t z g e r a l d f r i s b y l a n d s c a p e a r c h i t e c t u r e p t y l t d

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I.0 introduction

I.1 Study area and land use

Mills Beach is located on the Mornington Peninsula, approximately 80km south east of Melbourne. It lies to the north east of Main Street, Mornington. The beach is accessible by road and foot from the Esplanade and by foot from a walking track that links Mills Beach to Mothers Beach around Red Bluff. Refer to *Figure 1.1.1*.



Figure 1.1.1 The study area and surrounding context



Figure 1.1.2 The study area: Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club

The study area incorporates the Tanti Creek western carpark through to the Mornington Life Saving Club. Refer to Figure 1.1.2. Two informal gravel carparks service Mills Beach, separated by the Tanti Creek. A small barbecue and picnic area are located within the eastern carpark. A timber footbridge forms part of a concrete shared path which runs behind a stone sea wall. The Mornington Life Saving Club and adjacent public toilets are also located to the eastern end of the study area. A feature of Mills Beach are the bathing boxes which are outside the study area.

1.2 Land Status and Management Responsibilities

The land status and management responsibilities of Mills Beach are outlined as follows:

Mornington Peninsula Shire

Mornington Peninsula Shire (MPS) is the appointed Committee of Management (CoM) for the Mornington Foreshore Reserves under Section 14 of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 on 1 October 1983. Through this appointment, MPS may manage, improve, maintain and control the land for the purposes for which it is reserved. MPS may also lease areas of the foreshore reserve.

Department of Sustainability and Environment

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) manages Crown land on behalf of the Crown for all Victorians. Management responsibilities may be delegated by DSE to Committees of Management. Committees are eligible to apply for grants through DSE. Committees are required to provide financial or audited statements to DSE and can request assistance or advice as required. Any proposal to use or develop coastal Crown land must gain written consent under the Coastal Management Act 1995 from DSE. The sea-bed is unreserved Crown which is managed by the Public Land Division of DSE.

DNRE and MPS Memorandum of Understanding

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE was renamed as DSE in 2002) and MPS entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 6 December 2000 for management arrangements related to specified foreshore areas within the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

Although the MoU does not specifically cover the Mornington foreshore, the MoU

is still an important document in establishing the partnership approach between DSE and MPS as an appointed Committee of Management. The MoU sets out that both the DSE and MPS have a joint commitment for the management of foreshore reserves including the preparation of management plans, funding and participation in relevant forums. MPS will continue to work with the DSE to manage the Mornington foreshore on this basis.

The Mornington Life Saving Club (LSC) is responsible for the management of the LSC building.

1.3 Historic context

Mills Beach has a rich history as a public recreational space. The beaches in Mornington were permanently reserved as public spaces in the early 1860s. The following is an extract from the *Shire of Mornington Heritage Study* (1994, Graeme Butler & Associates):

'In the early twentieth century the Council was conscientious about maintaining seats, paths and vegetation on the foreshore at Mornington. They were aided in this task by the Mornington Progress Association which, in 1904, planted 7,000 tea-trees in the foreshore between Mills Beach and Marina Cove'

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The following images portray Mills Beach in the early twentieth century.



Figure 1.3.1 Mills Beach c.1903. Source: State Library of Victoria



Figure 1.3.2 Mills beach c.1920-54. Source: State Library of Victoria

1.4 Strategic context

The following is a summary of key existing State and Local Government policies and strategies that inform the development of the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club).

Victorian Coastal Strategy (Victorian Coastal Council, 2008)

The strategy sets out principles to guide the planning and decision making process about land use and development on coastal land. The principles establish the need to protect significant environmental and cultural values, based on the sound understanding of the coastal features, vulnerabilities and risks, they reflect on the importance of having integrated coastal policies, plans and strategies that respond to the major issues affecting the coast including climate change and population growth. The principles encourage the use of coastal resources in ways that are sustainable, and no to be harmed by exploitation or depletion below renewable levels.

Decision-making should be consistent with the hierarchy of principles, which are:

- 1. Provide for the protection of significant environmental and cultural values.*
- 2. Undertake integrated planning and provide clear direction for the future.*
- 3. Ensure the sustainable use of natural coastal resources.*

When the above principles have been considered and addressed:

- 4. Ensure development on the coast is located within existing modified and resilient environments where the demand for development is evident and the impact can be managed.*

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With regard to climate change and coastal planning the strategy recommends:

- 1. Apply the policy of planning for sea level rise of not less than 0.8 metres by 2100.*
- 2. Completing, as a matter of urgency, a coastal vulnerability study and incorporating the findings into relevant policy, planning and management frameworks*
- 3. Establishing a climate change scientific research and data system ensuring planning and management frameworks and actions respond quickly to the best available current and emerging science*

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Native Vegetation Management Framework (Department of Natural Resources and Environment, 2002)

The report outlines a strategic approach to the protection, enhancement and revegetation of native vegetation in Victoria.

The primary goal identified for native vegetation management is 'A reversal, across the entire landscape, of the long-term decline in the extent and quality of native vegetation, leading to a Net Gain'. Net Gain is the outcome for native vegetation and habitat where overall gains are greater than overall losses and where individual losses are avoided where possible. The losses and gains are determined by a combined quality-quantity measure and over a specified area and period of time. Gains may be either required offsets for permitted clearing actions or as a result of landholder and Government assisted efforts that are not associated with clearing.

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Mt Eliza to Point Nepean Coastal Action Plan: 2021 (Central Coastal Board and Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2005)

This strategy outlines the following key design principles to plan for healthy coastal environments and communities that are of relevance to this project.

Sustainability;

- Recognises that our economy, social well-being and environment each depend on the health of the other for true prosperity.*
- Values coastal and marine environments as long-term public assets that*

should not be compromised by inappropriate short-term decisions or developments.

- Promotes development which improves environmental, social and economic outcomes.
- Respects natural dynamic processes and systems that shape and maintain the coastline and its living resources, and avoids or minimises adverse activities.
- Encourages continuous improvement in human processes, activities and discharges that have an adverse impact on coastal environmental, social and economic values.
- Provides citizens with opportunities for participation in decision-making.
- Encourages diversity and vibrancy in regional economies.
- Facilitates and encourages the conservation and where possible, the use of, historic features.

Biodiversity:

- A reversal of the decline of biodiversity values across the entire landscape leading to a net gain.
- Maintenance of ecological processes and biodiversity and, where necessary, restoration.
- Maintenance or improvement across the bioregion of the present diversity and viability of species and ecological communities.
- No further preventable decline in the viability of threatened species and in the extent and quality of threatened ecological communities.

Access and Equity

- Car parking needs and the area of land provided for car parking on foreshore reserves should be fully assessed as part of detailed structure planning or the coastal management plan process to achieve the strategic objectives of the CAP. The provision of pedestrian access will be designed, sited and managed to minimise public risk, enhance environmental protection, minimise risks of erosion and improve access.

Sensitive design

- Protect the essential character of coastal settlements, undisturbed areas between settlements and the developed populated areas.
- Promote sustainable and sensitive coastal architecture and design.
- Provide an environmental, social and/ or economic benefit, enhancing the coast's value to the community. Outside of designated Activity Nodes new development will generally be coastal dependent or related to such uses.

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Draft Mornington Coastal Management Plan (Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2012)

The Mornington Coastal Management Plan (CMP) has been prepared to guide the future management, use and development of the Mornington foreshore. It is prepared in accordance with the Coastal Management Act 1995. The CMP includes the area for the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club). The CMP includes an overall vision for the Mornington foreshore developed through consultation with the community and stakeholders:

'The Mornington foreshore will continue to be an iconic coastal gateway for the region and be well integrated with the Mornington Township. The intrinsic scenic, ecological, cultural and recreational values of the Mornington foreshore reserve, taken as a whole, will be protected, maintained and enhanced to provide a clean, accessible and safe coastal environment for current and future generations.'

The CMP identifies planning units for the Mornington foreshore which are intended primarily to delineate areas for appropriate use and development based on their inherent values. The Mills Beach car parks and LSC/toilet block forecourt and foreshore area are identified as a 'recreational node' with the balance of the area defined as a 'sensitive'. Recreation nodes will provide a focus for managing recreational demand and enhancing the links between the Mornington foreshore and the town centre. However, it should be emphasised that ecological and cultural values must be considered in all decision making.

As well as recommending the development of the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club), the CMP makes specific recommendations for action for the area including:

- Undertake a Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the area included in the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club)
- Propose improvements through the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) to make Mills Beach a highly accessible beach for people with limited mobility
- Work with the Mornington LSC to provide water access at Mills Beach
- Provide for emergency vehicle access to the Mornington Life Saving Club through the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club)
- Improve the safe and efficiency capacity and the function of the Mills Beach carpark
- Develop the Mills Beach Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) in line with WSUD

The CMP also makes broader recommendations regarding improvements to pedestrian circulation, way-finding and interpretive signage and recreational infrastructure that can be considered and addressed through the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club).

Tanti Creek Management Plan (Mornington Peninsula Shire, August 2002)

The following extracts from the management plan relate to the area between the two car parks at Mills Beach, but a number of the principles can be applied across the whole study area.

- Convert a maintenance 'liability' into a community 'asset'.
- Provide flood control to ensure dwellings are not inundated and damage to properties is minimized.
- Address bed and bank erosion through sensitively placed structures that enhance the landscape setting.
- Protect regionally and locally significant native vegetation and fauna
- Remove declared noxious weeds and 'garden escapees' (environmental weeds).
- Reduce introduced tree species through natural attrition and planned removal.
- Facilitate natural revegetation through on-going weed and maintenance programs.
- Revegetate where necessary with plantings from indigenous sources within the reserve or in close proximity for genetic conservation purposes.
- Encourage local schools, abutting owners and friends group to be part of revegetation and water quality monitoring programs.
- Remove instream fish migration barriers.
- Provide devices to catch litter and sediment from the urban stormwater runoff.
- Allow public access to the creek in line with environmental sustainability, community expectations and local resident amenity requirements.

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Mornington Activity Centre Structure Plan (Mornington Peninsula Shire, July 2007)

The Structure Plan concentrates on the retail core precinct around Main Street, Mornington, and excludes Mills Beach, however following are extracts that can be applied to this project:

- Ensure adequate access for various modes of transport and...the coordinated provision of car parking facilities. (Page 12)
- Enhance the environmental qualities, recreational functions and iconic values of the foreshore and harbour. (Page 52)



2.0 analysis

2.1 Existing conditions

The following is a summary of existing conditions within and adjacent to the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) study area.

Mills Beach

Mills Beach is a recreational beach approximately 1.2kms long. Access to the beach is from The Esplanade to the south, including several unsealed walking tracks with stair cases. The beach is set lower than The Esplanade and adjacent residential properties, separated by a steep vegetated dune. Mills Beach is popular with both tourists and local residents for walking, swimming and sunbathing. Management, emergency vehicles and Life Saving Club managers access the beach from the only track that extends from the eastern carpark. The track is rarely locked so public access is also possible.

Mornington Life Saving Club (LSC)

Founded in 1914, the LSC provides a surf life saving service during the summer months (mid November - end of March) and facilitating water safety and life saving training programs to maintain a safe beach environment. Additional youth group and surf boat activities provide active recreational opportunities for club members. The perimeter of the building defines the approximate extent of the LSC lease. Two picnic settings are located in front of the LSC. Covered rubbish and recycling bins have recently been installed on the site.

Toilet block

The existing brick public toilet block is over 20 years old and is located next to the western wall of the LSC. Outdoor showers were removed to assist water saving in recent years.

Carpark

Two informal gravel carparks are located at the south end of Mills Beach, separated by Tanti Creek. A small unsheltered picnic area is located in the centre of the eastern carpark. Timber bench seats and picnic settings are located at the perimeter of the carpark with beach views although some of the views are obscured by vegetation. The carparks can become crowded on busy beach days or during LSC events, with cars parking illegally in disabled spaces, no standing zones, double parking and parking along the narrow access road that connects the carpark to the Esplanade (refer to Figures 2.3.1-2.3.3).

Tanti Creek

Tanti Creek is approximately 2.4km long. It is fed by a predominantly urban catchment as well as springs along the creek. The Tanti Creek Friends play an active role in maintaining the creek by restoring native vegetation along its sides, monitoring water quality. With the assistance of grants the Friends complete weed removal works and revegetation. The Mornington Primary School has assisted with recent works between the Esplanade and the timber foot bridge.

Existing vegetation

Native vegetation is the dominant vegetation type through the study area. Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) are mapping units developed by the Department of Sustainability and Environment to assist biodiversity analysis and planning in Victoria. The following EVC's have been identified as the indigenous landscapes prior to 1750. The dune landscape immediately adjacent to the foreshore is dominated by Coast Banksia Woodland (EVC 2), followed by Coastal Headland Scrub (EVC 161) further up the slope towards The Esplanade. Refer Appendix A for EVC maps and species details. An existing row of cypress trees is visually prominent on the western edge of the study area. The trees are very mature and may be prone to limb drop.

Walking track

An unsealed walking track described as a 'primary' track by the Mornington Peninsula Shire (MPS) *Shared Trail Strategy* connects Mills Beach to Mothers Beach via Red Bluff to the west. This in turn links to a larger trail, the 'Mornington to Mount Martha' track (part of the Peninsula Path Links series of leisure walks) which commences near the Mornington Pier. A timber staircase provides access to the unsealed walking track, which includes a series of lookouts from Red Bluff.

2.2 Site analysis

The following images show existing site conditions, descriptions and observations about the study area based on site visits.



Entry to the western carpark. Pedestrians and vehicles share the same roadway. Potential to separate pedestrians and vehicles and improve circulation.



Recently installed pedestrian crossing creating a pedestrian connection to the surrounding residential areas.



Informal walking track under existing mature cypress trees. Potential to formalise pedestrian path.



Views from the timber staircase of the existing western carpark. There is an opportunity to rationalise the space used for parking.



Timber stairs leading to the Red Bluff walk. Potential to create pedestrian connections to timber footbridge and the Red Bluff walk.



Stone sea wall at the outlet of Tanti Creek. The western carpark is used by visitors to view the water from their vehicle.



Existing picnic area with views to the water. There is an opportunity to provide shade and shelter to this area.



Tanti Creek. Weed species such as kikuyu grass are invasive and choking native plant species. Potential to remove weed species and revegetate.



Stormwater pipe beneath the Esplanade. Opportunity for revegetation and improved pedestrian facilities.



Revegetation works to the Tanti Creek has been undertaken by Mornington Primary School and Tanti Creek Friends.



Disabled park in eastern carpark. Potential to use this space more efficiently.



Access to the beach and LSC is narrow, steep and only partially sealed, making access difficult for some people with limited mobility. There is an opportunity to improve access to areas and cater better for people of all abilities.



Access to the beach and LSC consists of a mixture of finishes. In stormy conditions waves are known to wash over the top of the stone wall which can potentially impact native vegetation.



Bin area to west of public toilets. Opportunity to better define the areas for vegetation management.



Turning area used for MPS rubbish truck, cleaning staff and LSC. Opportunity to improve the function of this space.



Existing ramp to front of LSC very steep for deployment of rescue boat. The ramp can become slippery when covered in sand.



Grass becomes worn during busy summer months at the LSC. It also requires maintenance and the grass has the potential to become a weed.



Rear of the LSC. Opportunity for revegetation and to assist dune stabilisation.



The existing road to the eastern carpark is narrow with no defined pedestrian path. On busy days cars park on the road edges, forcing pedestrians into the middle and making it difficult for cars to pass. Potential to improve pedestrian access and prevent erosion to edges.



Overcrowding in the eastern carpark. Potential to increase the efficiency of the space and increase number of car parks.

2.3 Analysis of existing parking

Currently both carpark at Mills Beach are informal. Individual spaces are undefined, aside from disabled parks and some no standing zones, which means that on busy beach days the carparks are often subject to over-crowded and potentially un-safe parking patterns. Refer to *Figures 2.3.1-2.3.3* for images of overcrowding on busy beach days.

The following table lists an estimate of the number of safe and efficient carparks based on Australian Standard dimensions for car parking and the existing carpark footprint. During a Nippers event on Sunday 29 January 2011, it was observed that the safe and efficient capacity of the existing carparks combined may be exceeded by as much as 60%. This includes parking in illegal locations such as no standing zones which may block access for those with limited mobility and/or emergency vehicles. Vehicles were also parked too close to banks and vegetation and in close proximity to each other making it challenging to safely manoeuvre vehicles.

Carpark	Estimated legal parks (Based on Australian Standard dimensions for car parking and the existing footprint)
Western carpark	34
Eastern carpark	25
Total	59

There is an opportunity to use the existing carpark spaces more efficiently to cater for busy beach days and events such as Nippers.



Figure 2.3.1 Aerial photograph of car parking areas which highlights the random parking arrangements. Note the parking in picnic areas, along the access road and in no standing zones



Figure 2.3.2 Parking on a grassed area in the eastern carpark



Figure 2.3.3 Parking around the picnic area in the eastern carpark



3.0 consultation

3.1 Community consultation

The development of the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) has included community and stakeholder consultation. A consultation day was held in the eastern carpark at Mills Beach on Friday 20 January 2012 between 10am and 3pm. Residents from the surrounding neighbourhood, beach users from across the Shire and other municipalities, Shire contractors and stakeholder representatives attended the consultation. Following the event eight completed questionnaires and fifteen follow-up emails were received. A copy of the questionnaire is contained in Appendix B and a consultation summary in Appendix D.

The following is a summary of issues raised from the community consultation process and from site observations.

- Access between the eastern carpark and the LSC and public toilets, and from the toilets down to the sand can be difficult for people with limited mobility. Similarly, uneven surfaces to the front of the LSC can be a hazard to pedestrians.
- It can be difficult and potentially dangerous to see around corners when exiting the carpark on to the Esplanade.
- The natural surrounding environment is an important part of the Mills Beach character and part of its attraction to tourists and local residents.
- Weed species should be eliminated and replaced with indigenous vegetation.
- The existing gravel surface reflects the coastal character of the area.
- The outdoor showers that were removed during drought years were appreciated by beach users and many would like to see them reinstated.
- The central barbecue area is in an awkward location that can be surrounded by cars on busy days, restricting ocean and beach views and making pedestrian access potentially dangerous, especially for small children.
- There is a lack of shade in the picnic and barbecue areas, making them less desirable on hot sunny days.
- The shared trail is very popular with walkers.
- The speed of traffic along the Esplanade can make it difficult to cross the road safely during busy times.

3.2 Stakeholder consultation

In addition to discussing Mills Beach directly with local residents during the consultation day the following key stakeholders were consulted:

- Mornington Peninsula Shire staff
- Mornington Environmental Association
- Mornington Life Saving Club
- Mornington Foreshore Advisory Group
- Tanti Creek Friends
- Department of Sustainability and the Environment (DSE)

The following is a summary of issues raised from the community consultation process and from site observations.

- On busy beach days the carpark becomes crowded with cars where no designated parking space is shown, leading to narrowing of lanes. This can create issues with emergency access to the beach and the Life Saving Club.
- Pot-holes and silt run-off are a problem in the carpark which require a high level of recurring maintenance, especially in a carpark with high usage like Mills Beach.
- Hard pavement is the preferred surface for carparks to reduce erosion and maintenance.
- Water sensitive urban design is being incorporated into other MPS projects and may be suitable for any reconstruction of carparks to assist with water quality improvements.
- The existing footpath/track between the eastern carpark and the LSC is too steep for disabled access, restricting access for beach users.
- The existing location of the ramp at the LSC is problematic for the emergency IRB due to its steep grade and step in years of low sand deposition.
- The existing treated pine retaining wall to the Life Saving Club is deteriorating
- Weed control is an issue -some areas are dominated by exotic species.
- The following were suggested as potential locations for barbecue and viewing facilities:
 - Near the ramp
 - Closer to the pedestrian bridge
 - Along Tanti Creek
- Existing fencing around the barbecue area makes maintenance difficult. New facilities should be designed to assist MPS maintenance.
- The vehicle access on to the beach is often not possible due to shifting sand levels. An upgrade of ramps could be beneficial.
- The picnic area at the northern end of the western carpark could be improved.
- Demarcating the areas behind the LSC for revegetation would assist with both vegetation management and the management of the LSC.
- The rainwater from LSC currently percolates into the sand in areas. Rainwater tanks could potentially be introduced to reduce potable water use.

3.3 Exhibition of draft Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan

On 23 July 2012, Mornington Peninsula Shire Council resolved that the draft Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan should be exhibited for a period of five weeks. The exhibition period was advertised and included a meeting with the Mornington Foreshore Advisory Group on 26 July 2012 and a community information session on 16 August 2012. The exhibition period concluded on 27 August 2012. Submissions received during the exhibition period have been considered and the final plans have been revised, where possible, in response to the submissions. An extended summary of feedback from the exhibition is contained in Appendix D.

The key changes are summarised below:

- Revised wording to describe Mills Beach as: 'a highly accessible beach for people with limited mobility'
- Revised title of plan to 'Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club)'
- Relocation of the main picnic area to the sea-ward side of the ramp
- Greater emphasis on the need for further investigations of material finish of the car park through the detailed design phase
- Increase in the number of disabled car parks and re-location for improved convenience, and,
- An additional action to investigate a second pedestrian pathway from the parking area along the Esplanade to the foreshore.



4.0 landscape masterplan

Consultation with the community, Shire Officers and contractors have informed the preparation of the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club). A key aspect of the consultation with the project steering committee has been the acknowledgement that the site retain and enhance the existing site qualities. The proposed modifications to the recreation areas will better cater for current and future demands.

Some of the key recommendations for Mills Beach are:

- Upgrade the existing access ramp connecting the eastern carpark with the beach and the LSC to include equitable access for people with limited mobility and access for emergency vehicles MPS maintenance crews.
- Formalisation of the eastern carpark including widening of the access road, improved pedestrian access, relocation and upgrade of the picnic/barbecue areas and bicycle parking.
- Formalisation of the western carpark including an upgrade of the picnic area and strengthening of the pedestrian connection between the existing timber staircase and the footbridge.
- General vegetation management to retain and enhance the sensitive coast environment. Vegetation management to include removal of existing weeds and revegetation of indigenous species from the appropriate Ecological Vegetation Class (EVCs). The EVCs that are found at and around Mills Beach are contained in Appendix A.
- Re-construct the LSC frontage to create a more accessible space and particularly to enable safer, easier deployment of the rescue boat, emergency facilities and general equipment.
- Simplifying the palette of materials used on the site to create consistent and user friendly spaces that retain the existing character of Mills Beach and Mornington.

The proposed modification to carpark areas results in approximately 98 spaces as a result of formalising the parking areas and more efficiently using the existing carpark footprints.

Refer to Appendix C for the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club).



5.0 materials and finishes

Proposed modifications to existing pedestrian and vehicle areas should be sympathetic to the existing character of the study area. It is recommended that the carparks be paved using exposed aggregate concrete. The blend of the concrete mix should reflect the colour and texture of the existing sands and gravels of Mills Beach. *Figures 5.1 and 5.2* provide examples of the proposed finish.

Similar surface treatments should be used in pedestrian areas and areas adjoining the LSC. Proposed retaining walls should be constructed from materials similar to the existing sea walls or from concrete. *Figures 5.3 and 5.4* provides examples of possible finishes in similar coastal settings.



Figure 5.1 Existing exposed aggregate footpath and crossing on the Esplanade at Mills Beach

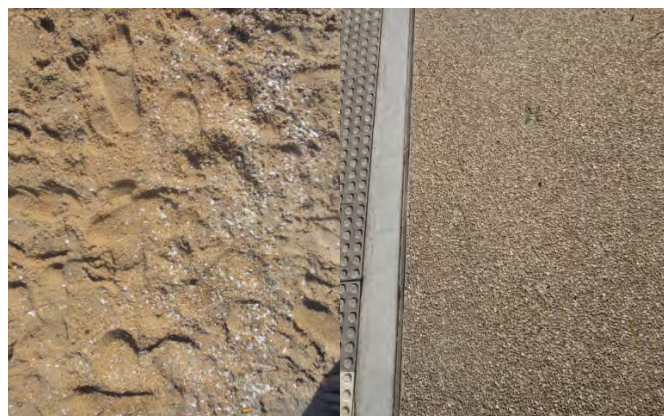


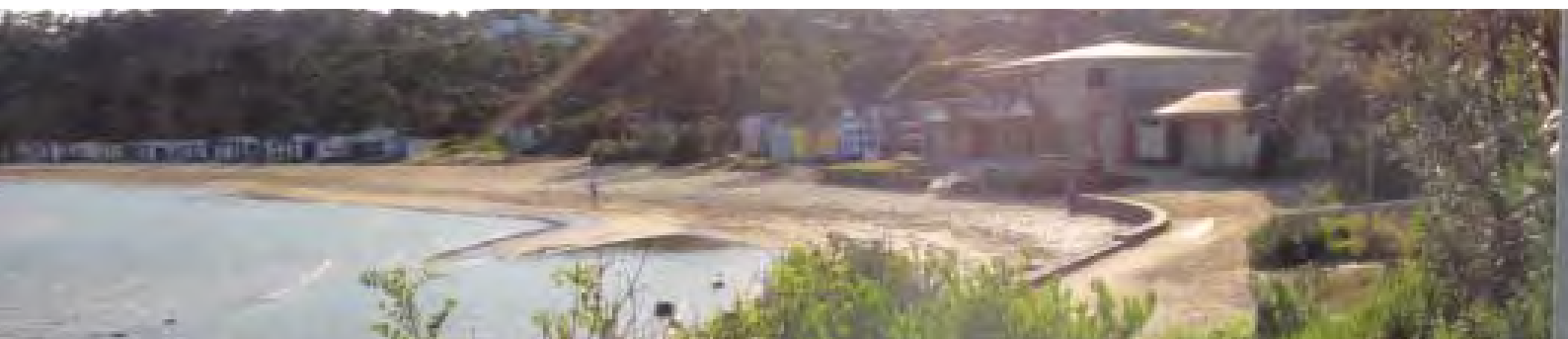
Figure 5.2 A comparison of an exposed concrete finish reflecting the sand colour and texture of Mills Beach



Figure 5.3 Example of Exposed aggregate paving reflecting sand/gravel surfaces at Elwood Foreshore



Figure 5.4 Example of a concrete retaining/seating wall in exposed aggregate concrete at St Kilda Baths



6.0 implementation and staging

The following table is a list of key recommendations including staging priorities and indicative costing. It is recommended that detailed design be undertaken of the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) works to enable a more detailed understanding of likely costs for implementation.

Priority	Staging
1. High	To be completed as part of Stage 1 works
2. Medium	To be completed as part of Stage 2 works
3. Low	To be completed as part of Stage 3 works
4. Ongoing	Works implemented as part of immediate site management

Any proposed works will be subject to detailed design outcomes, approvals processes and consideration in future capital works programs through the Mornington Peninsula Shire's budget processes.

Task	Priority	Stage		
		Stage 1 2012-2014	Stage 2 2012-2015	Stage 3 2015+
Detailed design, documentation and approvals to be undertaken for proposed works.	High	\$80,000 - \$100,000		
Upgrade the existing pedestrian path connecting the eastern carpark with the beach and Life Saving Club that is of a suitable gradient for people with limited mobility. Install a ramp with suitable gradient to provide equitable access to the sand for people with limited mobility and to improve maintenance and emergency vehicle access. Install a new picnic area including a shelter, a BBQ, furniture and interpretation signage. Construct retaining walls to assist bank stabilisation and protect vegetation. Upgrade existing drainage to prevent silting of drainage outlets. Upgrade the existing turn around area adjacent to the toilet block for maintenance and emergency vehicles.	High	\$150,000 - \$200,000		
Modify existing paving to front of LSC to better address changes in levels and better cater for public and LSC events. Improve access for people with limited mobility to the front of the existing public toilets. Install an equipment deployment ramp for the LSC, at a lower gradient than the existing ramp. Replace existing treated pine retaining wall with a concrete or stone wall to match the existing seawall. Retaining wall to include steps down to the sand and terraced seating. Install garden beds to front and sides of existing toilet block.	High	\$60,000 - \$80,000		
Reinstate beach showers with water efficient fittings.	High	\$1,000		
Formalise the existing eastern carpark to increase the number of usable parking spaces, pedestrian safety and the efficiency of the spaces without increasing the size of the existing footprint. Include widening of the existing entry road and short term car spaces close to beach area. Carpark landscape design to integrate water saving urban design to retain the informal nature of the existing carpark. Include kerbs, linemarking, disabled parking and bicycle parking. Rain gardens are to collect and treat carpark runoff.	Medium		\$300,000 - \$350,000	
Formalise the existing western carpark as per eastern carpark. Strengthen the pedestrian link connecting Red Bluff walk with the footbridge via the timber staircase. Define the western picnic area and revegetate existing grass areas with native species from the appropriate EVC.	Medium		\$250,000 - \$300,000	
Investigate the potential to install pedestrian ramp/steps to connect the eastern carpark with the Esplanade to create safe beach access for pedestrians. Remove areas of mown grass to prevent weed invasion.	Low			\$80,000 - \$100,000
Formalise existing carpark on the Esplanade to efficiently use the space.	Low			\$50,000 - \$70,000
Install a water tank to catch runoff from Life Saving Club. Water to be used to reduce potable water consumption such as flushing public toilets.	Low			\$5,000 - \$10,000
Install a post and wire fence to the rear perimeter of the LSC to prevent access to the dunes and enable revegetation of native plants. Fence location to be negotiated between LSC and Council. Fence to be constructed to MPS standards specifications.	Low			\$5,000 - \$10,000
General revegetation and weed control works where required. Revegetation to be undertaken with species from the appropriate EVC. Where possible plant stock to be of local provenance. Continue to encourage community group participation in revegetation works.	Ongoing			



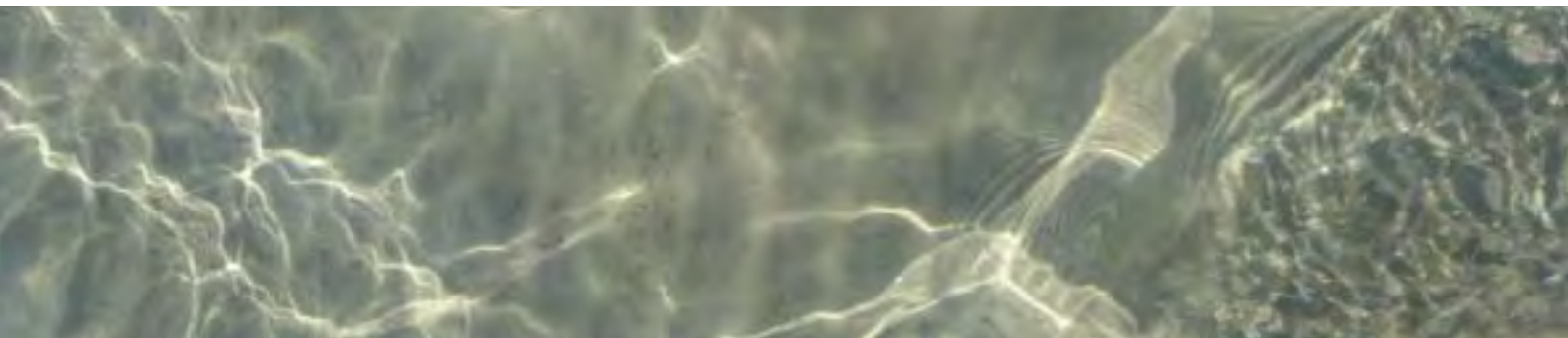
7.0 appendix

A: Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs)

B: Community consultation questionnaire

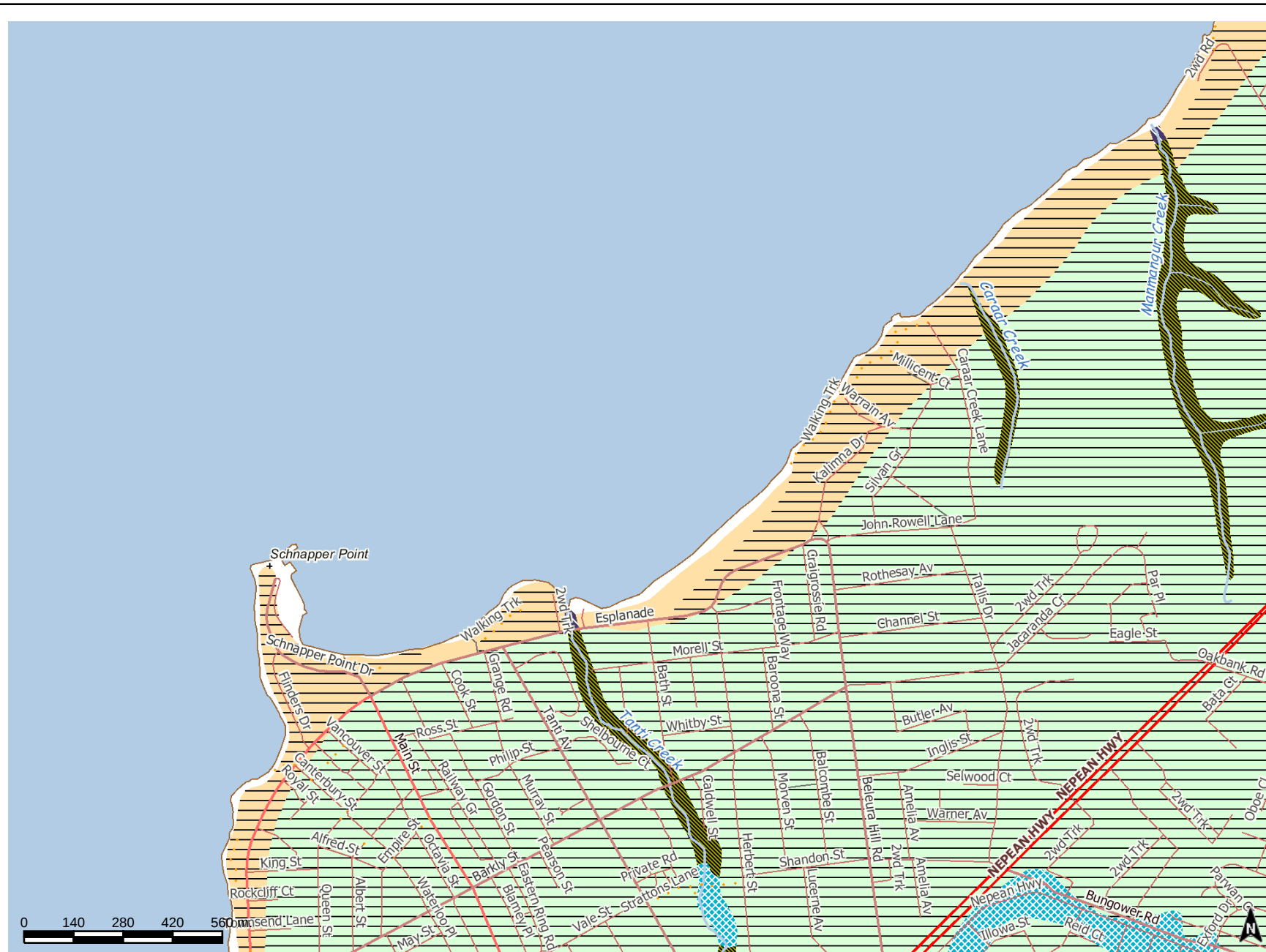
C: Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club)

D: Community consultation and draft exhibition feedback



appendix a

Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs)



- ROADS**
- Freeway
 - Highway
 - Main Road
 - Secondary Road
 - Local Road
 - 2WD (Unsealed)
 - 4WD Only
 - Walking or Cycle Track
- WATERCOURSES**
- UNNAMED DRAINAGE LINES
 - 1750 EVCs
 - 53 Swamp Scrub
 - 935 Estuarine Wetland/Estuarine Swamp Scrub Mosaic
- WATERBODIES**
- Watercourse Area
 - Permanent Waterbody
 - Wetland Area
 - Inundation Area
 - BUILT UP AREAS
- VEGETATION**
- 902 Gully Woodland
 - 175 Grassy Woodland
 - 2 Coast Banksia Woodland
 - 161 Coastal Headland Scrub

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EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Gippsland Plain bioregion

EVC 161: Coastal Headland Scrub

Description:

Scrub or low shrubland to 2 m tall on steep, rocky coastal headlands often associated with cliffs exposed to the stresses of extreme salt-laden winds and salt spray from the south west. Occurs on shallow sands along rocky sections of the coast.

Life forms:

Life form	#Spp	%Cover	LF code
Medium Shrub	7	50%	MS
Small Shrub	2	5%	SS
Large Herb	2	1%	LH
Medium Herb	4	5%	MH
Small or Prostrate Herb	2	5%	SH
Large Tufted Graminoid	1	1%	LTG
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid	4	10%	MTG
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid	2	5%	MNG
Scrambler or Climber	2	5%	SC
Bryophytes/Lichens	na	10%	BL
Total understorey projective foliage cover		70%	

LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
MS	<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i>	Coast Tea-tree
MS	<i>Acacia longifolia</i> ssp. <i>sophorae</i>	Coast Wattle
MS	<i>Rhagodia candolleana</i> ssp. <i>candolleana</i>	Seaberry Saltbush
MS	<i>Leucopogon parviflorus</i>	Coast Beard-heath
SS	<i>Leucophyta brownii</i>	Cushion Bush
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
SH	<i>Disphyma crassifolium</i> ssp. <i>clavellatum</i>	Rounded Noon-flower
MTG	<i>Dianella brevicaulis</i>	Small-flower Flax-lily
MTG	<i>Lachnagrostis billardierei</i> s.l.	Coast Blown-grass
MTG	<i>Poa poiformis</i>	Coast Tussock-grass
MTG	<i>Austrodanthonia caespitosa</i>	Common Wallaby-grass
MNG	<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	Knobby Club-sedge
SC	<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Small-leaved Clematis
SC	<i>Tetragonia implexicoma</i>	Bower Spinach

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

40 % cover

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MS	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Boneseed	high	high
MS	<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i> var. <i>myrtifolia</i>	Myrtle-leaf Milkwort	high	high
LH	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Common Sow-thistle	high	low
MH	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MTG	<i>Ehrharta erecta</i> var. <i>erecta</i>	Panic Veldt-grass	high	high

EVC 161: Coastal Headland Scrub - Gippsland Plain bioregion

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EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Gippsland Plain bioregion

EVC 175: Grassy Woodland

Description:

A variable open eucalypt woodland to 15 m tall or occasionally Sheoak woodland to 10 m tall over a diverse ground layer of grasses and herbs. The shrub component is usually sparse. It occurs on sites with moderate fertility on gentle slopes or undulating hills on a range of geologies.

Large trees:

Species

Eucalyptus spp.

Allocasuarina spp.

DBH(cm)

70 cm

40 cm

#/ha

15 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover

15%

Character Species

Eucalyptus radiata s.l.

Allocasuarina verticillata

Common Name

Narrow-leaf Peppermint

Drooping Sheoak

Understorey:

Life form

Immature Canopy Tree
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub
Medium Shrub
Small Shrub
Prostrate Shrub
Large Herb
Medium Herb
Small or Prostrate Herb
Large Tufted Graminoid
Large Non-tufted Graminoid
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid
Ground Fern
Scrambler or Climber
Bryophytes/Lichens

#Spp

2
6
2
2
2
8
3
2
1
6
2
1
2
1
na

%Cover

5%
10%
15%
5%
1%
5%
10%
5%
10%
10%
20%
10%
5%
5%
10%

LF code

IT
T
MS
SS
PS
LH
MH
SH
LTG
LNG
MTG
MNG
GF
SC
BL

EVC 175: Grassy Woodland - Gippsland Plain bioregion

LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
T	<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Black Wattle
T	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak
T	<i>Exocarpos cupressiformis</i>	Cherry Ballart
MS	<i>Leptospermum continentale</i>	Prickly Tea-tree
MS	<i>Epacris impressa</i>	Common Heath
MS	<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Common Cassinia
MS	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i>	Hedge Wattle
SS	<i>Pimelea humilis</i>	Common Rice-flower
SS	<i>Hibbertia riparia</i>	Erect Guinea-flower
PS	<i>Bossiaea prostrata</i>	Creeping Bossiaea
PS	<i>Astroloma humifusum</i>	Cranberry Heath
PS	<i>Acrotriche serrulata</i>	Honey-pots
LH	<i>Pterostylis longifolia</i> s.l.	Tall Greenhood
MH	<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort
MH	<i>Drosera peltata</i> ssp. <i>auriculata</i>	Tall Sundew
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidney-weed
SH	<i>Opercularia varia</i>	Variable Stinkweed
SH	<i>Drosera whittakeri</i> ssp. <i>aberrans</i>	Scented Sundew
LTG	<i>Deyeuxia quadriseta</i>	Reed Bent-grass
LTG	<i>Xanthorrhoea minor</i> ssp. <i>lutea</i>	Small Grass-tree
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge
MTG	<i>Lomandra filiformis</i>	Wattle Mat-rush
MTG	<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass
MTG	<i>Poa sieberiana</i>	Grey Tussock-grass
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken
SC	<i>Comesperma volubile</i>	Love Creeper
SC	<i>Billardiera scandens</i>	Common Apple-berry

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

20 % cover

Logs:

15 m/0.1 ha.

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
T	<i>Pinus radiata</i>	Radiata Pine	high	high
T	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Sweet Pittosporum	high	high
MS	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Boneseed	high	high
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MTG	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	high	high
MTG	<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking-grass	high	low

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EVC/Bioregion Benchmark for Vegetation Quality Assessment

Highlands – Southern Fall bioregion

EVC 902: Gully Woodland

Description:

Woodland or open forest to 20 m tall occurring along moderately steep gullies. Soils are mostly colluvial deposits of sands and silts. Characterised by a medium dense small tree and shrub layer above a grassy/sedgy understorey, often rich in herbs within the inter-tussock spaces.

Large trees:

Species

Eucalyptus spp.

DBH(cm)

70 cm

#/ha

10 / ha

Tree Canopy Cover:

%cover

20%

Character Species

Eucalyptus viminalis

Eucalyptus ovata

Common Name

Manna Gum

Swamp Gum

Understorey:

Life form

Immature Canopy Tree
Understorey Tree or Large Shrub
Medium Shrub
Small Shrub
Large Herb
Medium Herb
Small or Prostrate Herb
Large Tufted Graminoid
Large Non-tufted Graminoid
Medium to Small Tufted Graminoid
Medium to Tiny Non-tufted Graminoid
Ground Fern
Scrambler or Climber
Bryophytes/Lichens

#Spp

4
6
1
2
6
2
1
7
2
3
4
na

%Cover

5%
15%
15%
1%
1%
10%
5%
10%
5%
15%
10%
10%
10%
20%

LF code

IT
T
MS
SS
LH
MH
SH
LTG
LNG
MTG
MNG
GF
SC
BL

Recruitment:

Continuous

Organic Litter:

20 % cover

Logs:

10 m/0.1 ha.

EVC 902: Gully Woodland Highlands – Southern Fall bioregion

LF Code	Species typical of at least part of EVC range	Common Name
T	<i>Acacia mearnsii</i>	Black Wattle
T	<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>	Blackwood
T	<i>Bursaria spinosa</i>	Sweet Bursaria
T	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i>	Black Sheoak
MS	<i>Goodenia ovata</i>	Hop Goodenia
MS	<i>Coprosma quadrifida</i>	Prickly Currant-bush
MS	<i>Cassinia aculeata</i>	Dogwood
SS	<i>Rubus parvifolius</i>	Small-leaf Bramble
LH	<i>Senecio glomeratus</i>	Annual Fireweed
LH	<i>Senecio tenuiflorus</i>	Slender Fireweed
MH	<i>Acaena novae-zelandiae</i>	Bidgee-widgee
MH	<i>Gonocarpus tetragynus</i>	Common Raspwort
MH	<i>Hypericum gramineum</i>	Small St John's-wort
MH	<i>Viola hederacea</i> sensu Willis (1972)	Ivy-leaf Violet
SH	<i>Dichondra repens</i>	Kidneyweed
SH	<i>Oxalis exilis</i>	Shady Wood-sorrel
LTG	<i>Poa labillardierei</i>	Common Tussock-grass
LTG	<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat-rush
LNG	<i>Gahnia radula</i>	Thatch Saw-sedge
MTG	<i>Elymus scaber</i> var. <i>scaber</i>	Common Wheat Grass
MTG	<i>Austrodanthonia racemosa</i> var. <i>racemosa</i>	Stippled Wallaby-grass
MTG	<i>Lepidosperma laterale</i> var. <i>laterale</i>	Variable Sword-sedge
MTG	<i>Poa morrisii</i>	Soft Tussock-grass
MNG	<i>Microlaena stipoides</i> var. <i>stipoides</i>	Weeping Grass
MNG	<i>Poa tenera</i>	Slender Tussock-grass
GF	<i>Pteridium esculentum</i>	Austral Bracken
GF	<i>Adiantum aethiopicum</i>	Common Maidenhair
GF	<i>Doodia australis</i>	Common Rasp-fern
EP	<i>Amyema pendula</i>	Drooping Mistletoe
SC	<i>Clematis aristata</i>	Mountain Clematis
SC	<i>Pandorea pandorana</i>	Wonga Vine
SC	<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Small-leaf Clematis
SC	<i>Comesperma volubile</i>	Love Creeper

Weediness:

LF Code	Typical Weed Species	Common Name	Invasive	Impact
MS	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Boneseed	high	high
MS	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> spp. agg.	Blackberry	high	high
LH	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort	high	low
LH	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Common Sow-thistle	high	low
LH	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle	high	high
MH	<i>Hypochoeris radicata</i>	Cat's Ear	high	low
MH	<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Soursob	high	high
MH	<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i> s.l.	Common Mouse-ear Chickweed	high	low
MH	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>	Scarlet Pimpernel	high	low
MH	<i>Centaurea erythraea</i>	Common Centaury	high	low
MH	<i>Oxalis incarnata</i>	Pale Wood-sorrel	high	high
LNG	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire Fog	high	high
MTG	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	high	high
MTG	<i>Romulea rosea</i>	Onion Grass	high	low
MTG	<i>Ehrharta longiflora</i>	Annual Veldt-grass	high	low
MTG	<i>Ehrharta erecta</i> var. <i>erecta</i>	Panic Veldt-grass	high	high
MTG	<i>Briza maxima</i>	Large Quaking-grass	high	low
MNG	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cocksfoot	high	high
MNG	<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Angled Onion	high	high
MNG	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i> s.l.	Brown-top Bent	high	high
SC	<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Bridal Creeper	high	high

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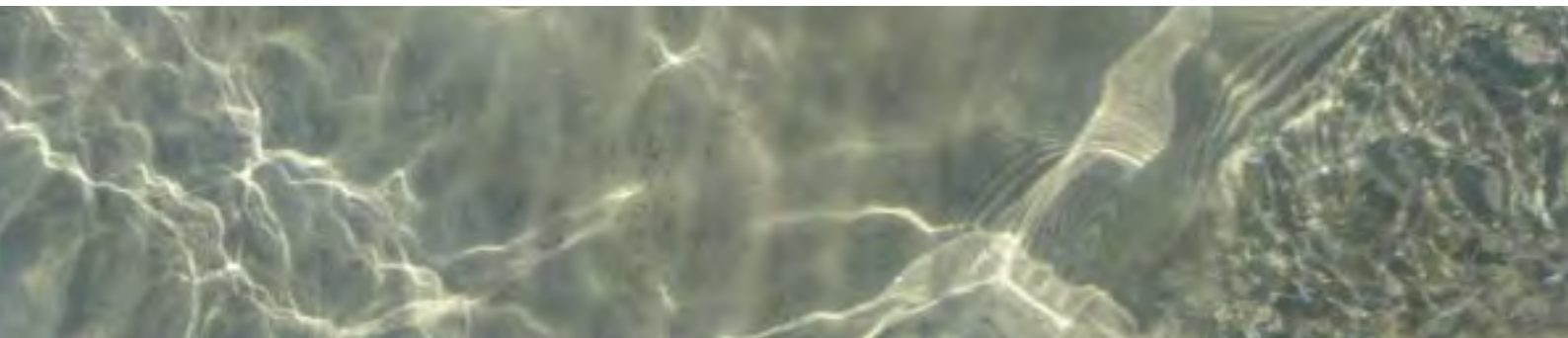
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appendix b

Community consultation questionnaire

What can Mills Beach be for you?



Date:.....

Are you a....

- ☐ Resident
☐ Visitor (including seasonal and infrequent visitors)

Would you like to receive future updates regarding the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please provide your details below:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Email:.....



New picnic/rest area?



Additional vegetation and screening of carpark?



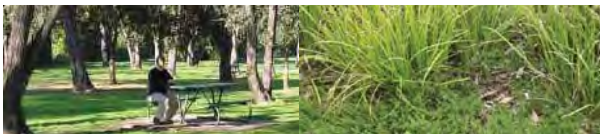
Additional walking paths and pedestrian connections?



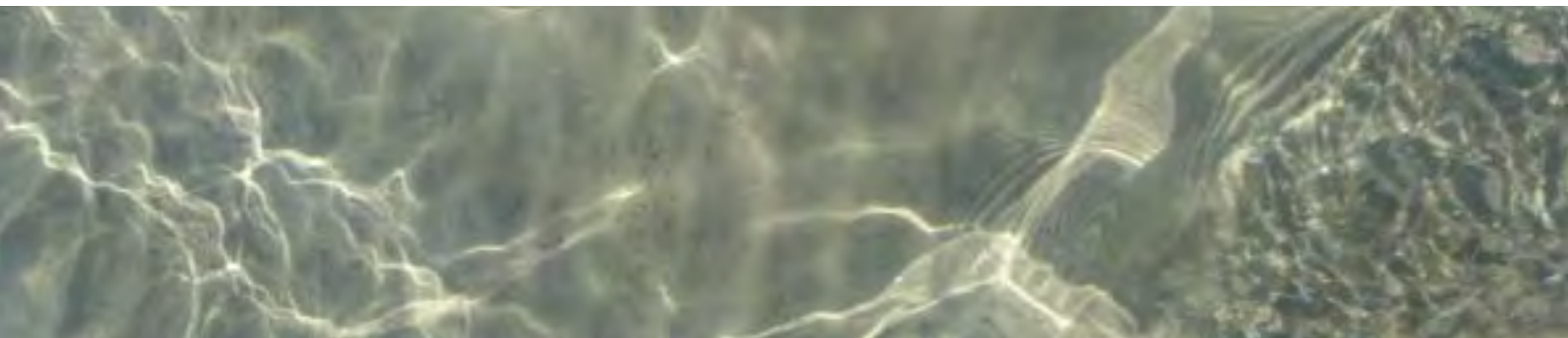
Additional revegetation?



Upgrade the area around the Life Saving Club?



Other?



appendix c

**Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek
western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club)**

1. Define the western picnic area and revegetate existing grass areas with native species from the appropriate Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC).
2. Strengthen the pedestrian link connecting Red Bluff walk with the footbridge via the timber staircase.
3. Revegetate boundary of existing western carpark footprint with indigenous plant species.
4. Investigate the integrity, maintenance requirements and remaining life-span of the existing row of Cypress trees. Develop a strategy for replacement with similar trees or an alternative species if required.

5. Install disabled carparking in close proximity to public amenities and pathways suitable for people with limited mobility. The position of disabled carparks should also allow for scenic viewing opportunities where possible.
6. Investigate the effectiveness of rain gardens to collect and treat carpark runoff and prevent sediment from entering Tanti Creek and the bay.
7. Continue support for general revegetation and weed control works undertaken previously by local volunteer groups. Revegetation to be undertaken with species from the appropriate EVC. Where possible plant stock to be of local provenance.

8. Create safer access for pedestrians by investigating the possible development of pathways linking the eastern carpark with the Esplanade. Route shown is indicative only.
9. Formalise the two existing carparks to increase their safe and efficient capacity and provide improved circulation for pedestrians and vehicles without increasing the size of the existing footprint. Carpark landscape design to integrate water saving urban design and enhance the informal nature of the existing carpark with opportunities for increased revegetation at the perimeters. Surface treatments to be investigated further.
10. Include short-term car spaces close to beach area to allow for passenger and

equipment drop-off, deliveries to LSC and Council patrol vehicles. Also include bicycle parking.

11. Undertake weed control and revegetation in this area with indigenous species. Low-growing species should be selected to retain bay views from carpark.

12. Upgrade the existing ramp connecting the eastern carpark with the beach and LSC to a standard that is suitable for people with limited mobility and provides access for emergency and maintenance vehicles.

13. Install a new picnic area including seating and tables on the sea-ward side of ramp that allow viewing opportunities of Life Saving

Club events and towards the bay. A bbq, additional tables and an unobtrusive shade shelter should be provided on the southern side of the ramp within the existing carpark footprint. Bins and bicycle parking to be provided in this area.

14. Interpretation signage is to be installed near picnic area and ramp. This could include information about native flora and fauna and the beach history.

15. Widen entry road to eastern carpark to allow two vehicles to pass safely. Vehicle entry and exit is to be modified to assist traffic circulation.



Disclaimer: Any proposed works will be subject to the required approvals processes, detailed design outcomes and consideration in future capital works programs through the Mornington Peninsula Shire's budget processes.

map source: nearmap.com



Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) Carpark Plan 1:500 (A3)



Legend

- proposed revegetation
- proposed rain garden
- proposed tree



- existing tree to be retained
- proposed picnic setting
- proposed sand/gravel coloured concrete pavement
- proposed fence



- proposed asphalt paving
- proposed concrete or stone retaining wall
- proposed 'slim-line' water tank

- 16. Install a ramp with suitable gradient to provide equitable access to the sand for people with limited mobility and to improve maintenance and emergency vehicle access.
- 17. Improve access for people with limited mobility.
- 18. Upgrade the existing turn around area adjacent to the toilet block for maintenance and emergency vehicles.
- 19. Construct low retaining walls approximately 600mm-900mm high to assist bank stabilisation and protect vegetation.

- 20. Upgrade existing drainage to prevent silting of drainage outlets if carparks and associated areas are to be sealed.
- 21. Reinstate beach showers with water efficient fittings, appropriate drainage and auto-stop timers.
- 22. Install garden beds to the front and side of the toilet block to soften the built form of this area. Low growing indigenous plants should be selected to retain open viewlines to the shower area and the bay.
- 23. Retain open space to rear of toilet block

- for maintenance and emergency access and Life Saving Club boat storage.
- 24. Investigate opportunity to install slim-line water tanks to catch run-off from LSC and the toilet block buildings.
- 25. Modify existing paving at the front of the LSC to better address changes in level and facilitate public access, and LSC events.
- 26. Install an equipment deployment ramp for the LSC, at a lower gradient than the existing ramp. Ramp is to provide quick, safe access to beach for life saving vessels.

- 27. Replace existing treated pine retaining wall with a concrete or stone wall to match the existing seawall. Retaining wall to include steps down to the sand and terraced seating.
- 28. Install a fence to the rear perimeter of the LSC to prevent access to the dunes and enable revegetation of native plants. Fence location to be negotiated between LSC and Mornington Peninsula Shire in consultation with relevant stakeholder groups.



Disclaimer: Any proposed works will be subject to the required approvals processes, detailed design outcomes and consideration in future capital works programs through the Mornington Peninsula Shire's budget processes.

map source: nearmap.com



Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club) Mornington Life Saving Club Plan 1:250 (A3)

Legend

proposed revegetation

proposed rain garden

proposed tree

existing tree to be retained

proposed picnic setting

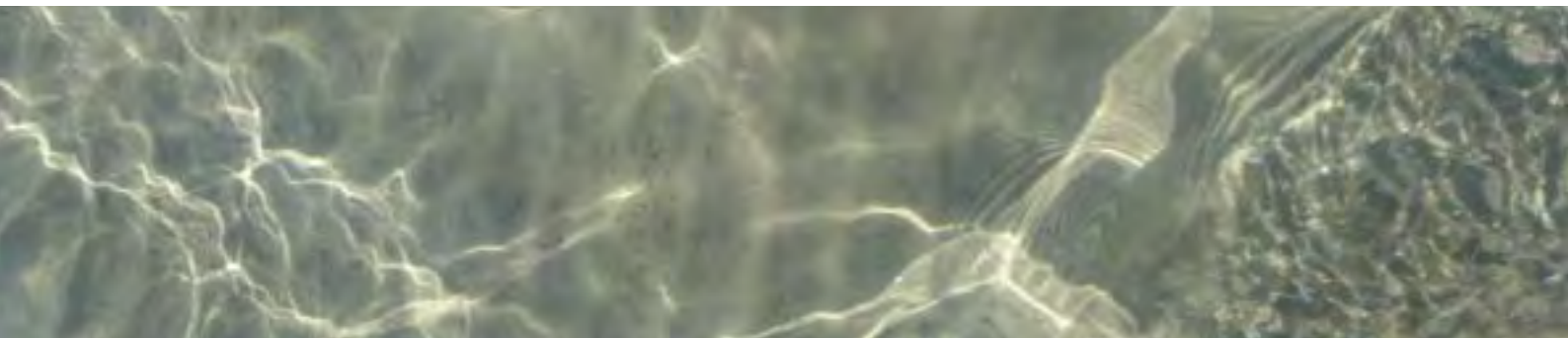
proposed sand/gravel coloured concrete pavement

proposed asphalt paving

proposed concrete or stone retaining wall

proposed 'slim line' water tank

proposed fence



appendix d

Community consultation and draft exhibition feedback

community consultation and draft exhibition feedback

Community consultation feedback

A consultation day was held in the eastern carpark at Mills Beach on Friday 20 January 2012 between 10am and 3pm. Residents from the surrounding neighbourhood, beach users from across the Shire and other municipalities, Shire contractors and stakeholder representatives attended the consultation. Following the event eight completed questionnaires and fifteen follow-up emails were received. Of the eight completed questionnaires, five were completed by local residents, two by non local visitors and one did not comment.

All submissions have been assessed and informed the development of this plan. Some of the comments received cannot be addressed through the Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan (Tanti Creek western carpark to Mornington Life Saving Club). These comments will be referred to other areas of the Shire or to other agencies as appropriate.

The following is an extended summary of questions posed during the community consultation process.

New picnic/rest area?

- A few more picnic tables could be handy and some shade
- Definitely a BBQ at bottom of boardwalk - more aesthetic
- Move the BBQs to foreshore or over to western carpark and free up the central area for native landscaping and carparking
- Revegetate hill at end of Tanti Creek Avenue – keep as a quiet area for walking, bird watching etc.
- Yes but not at the expense of the natural environment

Additional vegetation and screening of carpark?

- Not necessary. I like how I can sit in my car on a cold day and still enjoy the ocean
- Prefer not to pave – gravel works well so far
- No - concentrate on car parking
- Yes where possible - screening of carpark not needed – the less change the better!
- Yes. Get rid of kikuyu on bank and replace with natives

Additional walking paths and pedestrian connections?

- Not necessary - like the natural feel of the beach
- Access needed from Esplanade instead of potential hazard of pedestrians walking down entrance
- Link between car park and cliff area not needed - already exists and should stay there

- Yes. Especially footpaths along the Esplanade and through the scrub at end of Tanti Avenue
- The existing path from the carpark needs to be better maintained

Additional revegetation?

- There is plenty of vegetation around. Some shade trees are needed
- Revegetation needed in BBQ area to protect from cars
- Remove weed trees and shrubs from scrub and replace with native trees and plants

Upgrade the area around the Life Saving Club?

- An outside shower could be handy
- Nowhere to wash sand off - showers etc.
- Maybe, but would it increase car activity further?
- Upgrade in that location requires careful engineering especially access for strollers and wheelchairs. But the access to the shire toilet block is a shambles and needs upgrade. Access for ambulance is essential.
- No. Toilets up far end should be removed. Another path to the top there would be good

Other?

- Water quality needs improving
- Jet skis conflict with other water users
- Beach users under the influence of alcohol can be a menace
- Improve road vision as you exit car park
- Do not bitumen the carpark because all the other beaches in the area are gravel – don't want masses of formalised hard surfaces
- Probably not a rotunda but more shade could be good for BBQs
- Foreshore vegetation collects rubbish, especially needles and condoms so more bins are needed
- Mowing is done too close to planting beds and ringbarks trees (e.g on Esplanade). Fencing would help
- Better pedestrian separation at Bath St carpark (out of scope)
- Reduce cars from 60km/hr to 50km/hr – trying to cross the Esplanade with 60km/hr traffic in peak periods is extremely difficult, especially with children and equipment. Improve crossings
- Zebra crossing along Esplanade at beach access points
- State of carpark near LSC is often untidy with lots of rubbish, particularly after nighttime activities
- No more beach boxes, no bitumen, please do not remove the cypress trees

Draft exhibition feedback

A five week exhibition period was advertised and included a meeting with the Mornington Foreshore Advisory Group on 26 July 2012 and a community information session on 16 August 2012. The exhibition period concluded on 27 August 2012. Submissions received during the exhibition period have been considered and the final plans have been revised, where possible, in response to the submissions.

The following is an extended summary of key issues raised during the public exhibition of the draft Mills Beach Landscape Masterplan.

- Concerns about the aesthetics of sealing the carpark and the durability of exposed aggregate
- Additional disabled carparks
- Concerns about the adequacy of community consultation in relation the proposal
- Locate the disabled carparks more convenient to pathways and amenities
- Suggestions for improvements to the public toilet facilities
- Request for coach parking
- Need for an additional pedestrian pathway from the eastern end of the Esplanade and the carparking along the Esplanade
- Ensuring there is no net loss of native vegetation
- Retention of the row of cypress trees
- Additional weed control
- Need for shade, particularly at the picnic areas
- Maintaining site lines
- Capacity and function of proposed stormwater control measures
- Need for further input from the Mornington Life Saving Club in detailed design development